Camp near Monterey, Mexico,
June 29th 1846.

My dear Sir,

HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

About the first of February last, I received a kind letter from you acknowledging the receipt of some plants, through the hands of Major Eaton. I would have replied to it immediately, had I not hoped to have been able to send some more specimens with it. I have been busy during the Spring, looking for such new plants as may not have been collected by Major Eaton or myself. I have not been fortunate in finding many. The few that I have, I shall endeavour to forward by the first opportunity. They are not as numerous or as well preserved as I could wish, but I hope to make amends for these faults in the course of the next 12 months. When I last wrote you, we were in some expectation of proceeding on to San Luis Potosi, & I anticipated much pleasure in securing for you many new & interesting plants, by the way side. Those prospects have been completely blotted out. But other fields still lie open before me, & I expect to cull many of their pretty denizens for you. We have just received orders to proceed to California & Santa Fé. The command will be composed of Companies of Dragoons & one battery of Artillery. We start in about 14 days, passing through Parras, the great vine growing country, Chihuahua, Paso del Norte &c. Much pleasure is anticipated, notwithstanding the endeavour

of the order, & the complete change of direction. We were all ready to move by this day, & indeed some of the troops had reach Camargo, & others were escorting the General down at the time he received the instructions from Washington. A great many had hoped to leave the country for the States & this sudden change, quite disconcerted them for a moment, but a little consideration soon composed them & we all set off into this apparent banishment with cheerful hearts.

The express leaves immediately so I must say adieu.

Believe me, my dear Sir

Very Truly Yours

Lewis A. Edwards.

Prof: John Torrey.
New-York.